



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 8, 2002

### **H.R. 2643**

### **Fort Clatsop National Memorial Expansion Act of 2002**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on April 24, 2002*

#### **SUMMARY**

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2643 would cost \$9 million over the 2003-2007 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 2643 would expand the boundaries of the Fort Clatsop National Memorial in Oregon to include 1,375 acres of additional lands and would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire nonfederal lands within that expanded area. With the exception of certain corporately owned lands that could be acquired by condemnation, the bill specifies that the Secretary could acquire lands only from willing sellers. H.R. 2643 also would direct the Secretary to study an area known as Station Camp near McGowan, Washington, for potential inclusion in the National Park System.

H.R. 2643 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

In the event that the National Park Service (NPS) uses the condemnation authority contained in the bill to acquire certain corporately owned timberlands for inclusion in the Fort Clatsop National Memorial, such an acquisition would constitute a private-sector mandate as defined by UMRA. CBO estimates that the direct cost of this private-sector mandate would fall well below the annual threshold established by UMRA (\$115 million in 2002, adjusted annually for inflation).

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 2643 will be enacted by the start of fiscal year 2003 and that necessary funds will be provided close to the start of each year. The estimated

budgetary impact of H.R. 2643 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>					
Estimated Authorization Level	6	3	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	6	3	0	0	0

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

Based on information from the NPS, CBO expects that expanding the memorial as specified in the bill would not significantly increase the agency's costs to manage the memorial, but would result in increased costs for land acquisition and development. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the agency would spend \$6 million in 2003 and \$2 million in 2004 to acquire nonfederal lands within the expanded memorial. We also estimate that the agency would spend \$1 million in 2004 to construct trailhead facilities, parking lots, and other necessary infrastructure. Finally, based on information from the NPS, we estimate that the agency would spend less than \$300,000 during fiscal year 2003 to study the area known as Station Camp near McGowan, Washington, for potential inclusion in the National Park System.

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

## **ESTIMATED IMPACT ON STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS**

H.R. 2643 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

## **ESTIMATED IMPACT ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

In the event that the NPS uses the condemnation authority contained in the bill to acquire certain corporately owned timberlands for inclusion in the Fort Clatsop National Memorial,

such an acquisition would constitute a private-sector mandate as defined by UMRA. Because title to the property is not clear, both the NPS and the property owner have agreed that condemnation would be the best method of acquisition. The cost of this mandate would be the fair market value of the land and expenses incurred by the private-sector owner in transferring the property to the federal government. In accordance with federal law, the NPS would compensate the current owners for the fair market value of the land through a judicial condemnation proceeding. According to the NPS, the timberlands have been appraised at roughly \$6 million. Thus, CBO estimates that the direct cost of this private-sector mandate would fall well below the annual threshold established by UMRA (\$115 million in 2002, adjusted annually for inflation).

## **PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE**

On September 4, 2001, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for a similar bill, S. 423, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on August 2, 2001. The two bills are substantively similar, and our estimates of total federal spending under each bill are the same. Differences in the timing of outlays reflect a change in our assumption regarding when H.R. 2643 will be enacted. The two bills contain the same private-sector mandate.

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